

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 2005

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DCS Responds to Shooting Spree by Nashville Youth

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - On Monday, June 20, 2005, Metro Nashville police captured a teenager suspected of going on a shooting spree on Sunday, June 19, during which two people were wounded and one person was fatally injured through gunfire.

The 15-year-old youth was formerly in the custody of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services. He was committed on September 16, 2003 as a delinquent for aggravated robbery, handgun possession, attempted aggravated robbery and two counts of disorderly conduct.

On January 23, 2005, Davidson County Juvenile Court released the youth from DCS custody after completion of his program. Through an aftercare program, the Department maintained consistent contact with the youth and family.

On February 10, 2005, the youth went before Davidson County Juvenile Court on charges of criminal trespassing, filing a false police report and evading arrest, for which he was found guilty and received a stayed commitment. In the event that he incurred additional infractions, the youth would be recommitted to state custody by the court.

A DCS caseworker maintained regular contact with the youth. The last in-person visit occurred on June 1, 2005.

"This is a tragic and unfortunate occurrence for the victims and their families," said Steven Hornsby, deputy commissioner of juvenile justice for DCS. "We try to meet the treatment needs and issues of youth, while keeping the community safe, but, unfortunately, even with most diligence, all behavior cannot be predicted. The caseworker, with whom the youth and his mother had never missed an aftercare appointment, is shocked that this tragedy has occurred."

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